

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10 were pending in this case. In the face of a restriction requirement, Applicants have cancelled Claims 6 and 7, reserving the right to pursue their subject matter in one or more divisional applications. Upon entry of this Amendment, Claims 1-5, 8 and 10 will be pending in the case.

The Office Action has divided the claims of the present invention into four groups, I-IV as set forth on page 2 of the Office Action.

The Office Action alleges that there is a lack of unity, however Applicants point out that neither the International Search Report nor the International Preliminary Examination Report found a lack of unity.

However, to remove issues from the case, Applicants have cancelled Claims 6 and 7.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I for prosecution, that is to say Claims 1-4, 8 and 10, and also limit Claim 5 to the process (a).

With regard to the election requirement set forth on page 4 of the Office Action, Applicants elect the specific compound of Example No. 2 on page 31, Table 1 of the specification.

With regard to the process of Claim 5, Applicants hereby elect the process of step (a) of Claim 5.

It is believed these elections will satisfy the requirements of the Office Action, and Applicants respectfully request review, consideration and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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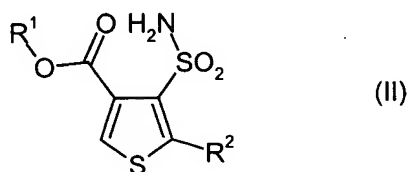
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 6 and 7.

Please amend the claims as follows.

5. (Twice Amended) A process for preparing a compound according to Claim 1, ~~said process being selected from the group consisting of process (a), process (b), process (c), process (d) and process (e), wherein~~ comprising the step of:

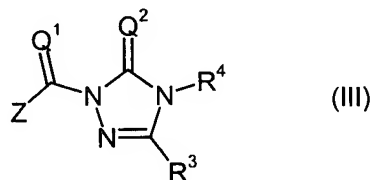
(a) ~~said process (a) comprises the step of~~ reacting a substituted thiophene-3-sulphonamide of the formula (II)



wherein

R¹ and R² are each as defined in Claim 1

with a substituted triazolin(ethi)one of the formula (III)



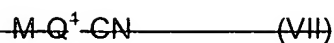
wherein

Q¹, Q², R³ and R⁴ are each as defined in Claim 1 and

Z represents halogen, alkoxy, aryloxy or arylalkoxy,

optionally in the presence of a reaction auxiliary and optionally in the presence of a diluent,

~~(b) said process (b) comprises the step of reacting a substituted thien-3-yl-sulphonyl iso(thio)cyanate of the formula (IV)~~

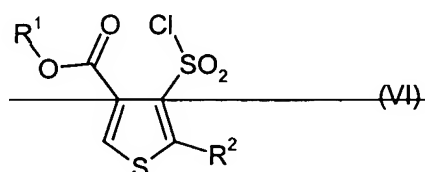


wherein

Q^1 is as defined in Claim 1,

optionally in the presence of a reaction auxiliary and optionally in the presence of a diluent,

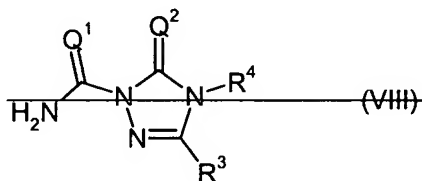
(c) said process (d) comprises the step of reacting a substituted thiophene-3-sulphonyl chloride of the formula (VI)



wherein

R^1 and R^2 are each as defined in Claim 1

with a triazolin(ethi)one (thio)carboxamide of the formula (VIII)



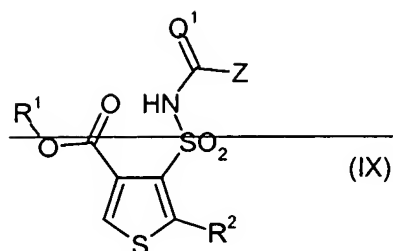
wherein

Q^1 , Q^2 , R^3 and R^4 are each as defined in Claim 1,

optionally in the presence of a reaction auxiliary and optionally in the presence of a diluent,

and

(d) said process (e) comprises the step of reacting a substituted thien-3-yl-sulphonylamino(thio)carbonyl compound of the formula (IX)

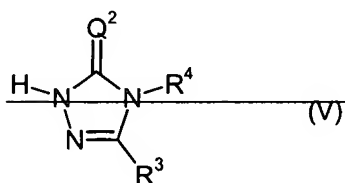


wherein

Q^1 , R^1 and R^2 are each as defined in Claim 1 and

Z represents halogen, alkoxy, aryloxy or arylalkoxy,

with a triazolin(ethi)one of the formula (V)



wherein

Q^2 , R^4 and R^5 are each as defined in Claim 1,

optionally in the presence of a reaction auxiliary and optionally in the presence of a diluent,

wherein each of said processes (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) further optionally comprises the step of converting the compound of the formula (I) obtained by said processes (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e), into a salt.